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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6012  
INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7520  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6155  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 3252  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6216  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 8220  
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 7801  
RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

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NEA, S/SAGSWA, P

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/02/2019

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [IR](#) [IN](#)

SUBJECT: INDIA TO APPROACH IRAN TO DISCUSS ROXANA SABERI'S  
DETAINMENT

REF: SECSTATE 30046

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Steven White for Reasons 1.4 (B, D)

¶1. (C) Acting DCM met with Indian Ministry of External Affairs Joint-Secretary (Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran Division) T.C.A. Raghavan on April 2 and, inter alia, delivered refTel points regarding the continued detention in Iran of Amcit Roxana Saberi. Raghavan acknowledged our concern, and in response to our request that India assist by contacting the Iranians to release her as a humanitarian gesture, Raghavan said India would "certainly try".

¶2. (C) Raghavan told A/DCM that this is not the first time India has approached Iran on such a matter. He added a caveat that when approaching Iran, India would be careful to raise the issue "in a way that does not make them walk out of the room," but expressed confidence in India's ability to positively influence Iran's decision on such an issue. Raghavan cited a similar case of an American woman who in 2007 was arrested in Iran and was released, in his view, after having been approached by the Indians on the matter.

¶3. (S) A/DCM pointed out that Iranian government offices will reopen again on April 4, after which point Saberi may be publicly charged with espionage, making it more difficult for Iran to walk the action back. Raghavan clearly understood that this issue is of a time-sensitive nature, and assured A/DCM that the GOI would approach the Iranians on this matter.  
WHITE